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TERMS OF THE WEEKLY—Two Dollars per annum, in advance, or within the first month; Two Dollars and fifty cents, if payment be delayed six months; and Three Dollars, if not paid within six months from the time of subscribing. EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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The Standard.

RALEIGH, SATURDAY, JAN. 14, 1854.

NEBRASKA-JUDGE DOUGLAS.

Whilst the organs of abolitionism, says the Washington Union, are stultifying themselves in their effort to make an issue between the Missouri Compromise of 1820 and the Compromise of 1850-both of which were violently opposed by them during the perilous scenes of 1850—we are gratified to witness the earnestness and promptness with which our | ton are expected to exhaust the subject. democratic cotemporaries are rallying to the support of the principles proposed to be incorporated into the Nebraska bill. As a historical fact, we may remark, that in 1850 Judge Douglas proposed to adopt the Missouri compromise line, and to extend it to the Pacific; but the organs which now insist upon the inviolability of that compromise denounced his proposition as a base truckling to the slave power. That proposition failed in Congress; and now, when he proposes the Compromise of 1850 as the basis of the Nebraska bill, he is denounced by the same organs as truckling to the slave power, because he doe: not again bring forward the Missouri Compromise.

The Boston Post, one of the soundest Democratic iournals in the Union, says:

"On the 22d a bill was introduced into the House to organize the Territory of Nebraska. This measure comes up under interesting aspects. By the Missouri Compromise, slavery was to be prohibited in all territ ry north of 36 degrees, 30, but it says nothing about slavery south of that line; and hence States south of that line might establish it or not, as the people might determine. When the territory which was south of this line was acquired from New Mexico, the clause known as the Wilmot proviso was attempted to be applied to it. This was put forth as the basis of the creed of the whig party in every form of party resolution, convention address, or legslative resolve; and in some cases of democratic resolves. But Gen. Cass, in his Nicholson letter, tool the broad ground that the people of every State and every Territory have a right to determine their constitution and laws, and that the relation of the general government towards both States and Territories should be one of complete non-intervention as to the slavery question. On the floor of the Senate he contended that the Wilmot proviso was unconstitutional. This was the principle as to New Mexico and Utah that Mr. Webster advocated. This prevailed, and thus the Compromise of 1850 became added to that of the Missouri Compromise of 1820. The principle recognised in the former, as to legislation for Territories and for States—as to the formation of territorial governments and the admission of States-is this non-intervention principle. The question as to Ne-braska will be, shall the 1850 compromise of the slavery question be adhered to and the subject be left to the people of Nebraska, or shall Congress prohibit the introduction of slavery into it?

The bill originally introduced relative to Nebraska was referred to the Committee on Territories. Judge ouglas, from this committee, has reported this bill back to the Senate with important amendments—the main purpose of which is to incorporate the principles established by the compromise measures of 1850 into it, and thus, so far as it may be practicable, to carry them into operation in the new Territory. The report is brief, clear, concise, and admirable; and we cannot too highly commend it to the attention of all. The circumstances of Nebraska are such, as to local law, as to make it a complete parallel to the causes of New Mexico and Utah; and the action on this bill and report will show who are in favor of the compromise measures of 1850 as a final settlement of the slavery question; and who are for jeoparding the great interests of commerce, the harmony of the confederacy, and even the continuance of the Union, by keeping them open. It is but simple justice to Judge Douglas to say that he has done his duty promptly and judiciously, and in a model of a report, brief and

yet full, presented the whole question."

The Philadelphia Argus says: "This report of Judge Douglas will be hailed with elight and satisfaction in all parts of the Union, evincing, as it does, the earnest intention to abide by the compromise act of 1850 as a final and unalteraole settlement of the slavery issue between the States. the mere publication of this 'report and bill,' coming, as they do, endorsed by Judge Douglas, who is known to be a staunch and trusted friend of the national administration, cannot but exert a prominent ence on the public mind. It gives assurance that no more agitation will be allowed upon this ques-tion, but that when the people of a Territory shall have made the constitutional arrangements in their own form, and applied to Congress for admission in-to the Union, their request shall be granted. This will be the light to guide the country in the future; and this is one of the first fruits of that great triumph which resulted in the elevation of the present administration into power, and the vindication of the constitution and the compromise act of 1850. The inaugural and message of General Pierce are paralleled Judge Douglas in the principles of his report and l, and thus strengthened, the march of the administration will be steadily on in that path which is lighted by the wisdom of the past, and cheered by

he prospects of the future.

The plain and emphatic endorsement of the compromise acts, as a final settlement of the slavery issue, by the Baltimore Convention, and the reunion of the democracy upon that platform, has been prac-tically endorsed by this bill for the establishment of territorial government for Nebraska; and the coun-

under the sanction of the national legislature. The wisdom and policy of the administration of General Pierce will receive a practical vindication by the adoption of this report and bill of Judge Douglas, with reference to the territorial government of Nebraska, while that distinguished senator will still further strengthen his position as a statesman and a patriot before the American people. The action of the two houses upon this measure will be looked for with deep interest in all sections of the country, and the passage of the bill hailed with delight as a reaffirmation of those great principles on which the peace and prosperity of the confederacy rest."

What says the Raleigh Register to this important and admirable movement on the part of Judge Douglas? Will that paper continue to speak of him as unsound on the slavery question, or will it adopt the policy of silence, and thus keep the facts from its readers? Why may it not, on a question like this, do justice for once to a political opponent? If it should not, its reasons will be apparent; it will be either because it is opposed to the spread of African slavery, or because it is incapable of looking, in any thing, above party movements and party aims.

CONGRESS-MONDAY, JAN. 9.

SENATE.—The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate several communications from the War Department, showing the expenditures of that department, the number of arms made at the national armories during the last fiscal year, &c.

Mr. Benjamin submitted a resolution calling upon the President of the United States for any correspondence that may have taken place between the government of the United States and that of Mexico, respecting the right of way across the isthmus of Tehuantepec not embraced in the communication made by President Fillmore to the Senate in July, 1852. Mr. B. briefly explained the reason of the resolution; and, at his request, it was considered and adopted.

Mr. Foot submitted a resolution, which was agreed to, in relation to the repeated detention of the mails between the cities of New York and Washington, calling upon the Postmaster General for information as to the causes of such detention, and whether any action of Congress was required in relation to the subject.

The Senate adjourned at an early hour. The House was not in session to-day.

In the Senate, on Tuesday, Mr. Cass moved to postpone till to-morrow the Central American subject, on account of the death of Mr. Muhlenburg, a member from Pennsylvania. Mr. Cass and Mr. Clay-

acres of various Western railroad companies, for the construction of a continuous line of railway from Lake Eric to New Orleans and Mobile.

Mr. Brodhead pronounced an eulogy on the death of Mr. Muhlenburg; after which the customary resolutions were adopted, and the Senate adjourned. In the House, after culogies on Mr. Muhlenburg

and the customary resolutions, that body adjourned.

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

On Tuesday last, the 10th, the eighth annual meeting of the North Carolina Mutual Fire Insurance Company was held at their office in this City. Col. J. B. G. Roulhac was elected President of the Company; H. D. Turner, Vice President; S. W. Whiting, Treasurer; John C. Partridge, Secretary; and J. Hersman, General Agent. The same Board of Directors was re-elected for the ensuing year.

It is with no inconsiderable gratification that we chronicle the progress and results of this, the pioneer Insurance Company of the State. During the past year they have issued eleven hundred policies, paid about nine thousand dollars for losses; and after paying all expenses, they have exceeding ten thousand dollars in cash on hand, and six hundred and thirty-six thousand dollars in premium notes.

CITY ELECTION.

An election will be held in this City, on Monday next, for an Intendant and seven Commissioners. We hear of no opposition to the present worthy Intendant. He will be re-elected, of course.

We trust the new Board will see to it that the laws in relation to slaves are enforced. And we think it would be well to adopt an Ordinance against slaves loitering about and in drinking houses. This is a great and growing evil in the community, and ought to be firmly met and put down.

The Federal Whigs of Yadkin County have nominated John A. Gilmer, Esq. for Governor. They are willing to support him, white or mixed basis notions and all-but will Eastern Whiggery? Thus far George Davis is several tallies ahead of Mr. Gilmer. We trust our Federal friends will please themselves in the matter. Mr. Davis would run pretty well in Brunswick and along shore, and Mr. Gilmer would get some votes in Guilford. In the last campaign the Federalists had a talking candidate; we advise them to start a running one next time. This advice is, of course, gratis and unsolicited.

WARR NTON FEMALE INSTITUTE. We have received, from a friend, a "Catalogue of the Faculty and Pupils" of this Institute, for 1852-'3. The Faculty consists of Rev. Z. Graves, A. M.-Mrs. E. B. W. Graves-Julius Wilcox-Mrs. S. A. Wilcox-Mrs. V. E. Evans-and Miss M. E. Miller. The number of graduates since 1843, is 49-since 1846, 18. The pupils during 1852-'3, numbered 135. This Institute is in a highly flourishing condition, and is doubtless deserving of the patronage it enjoys.

SMITH AND COLBY AGAIN. We learn that Messrs. Smith and Colby have obtained from the Supreme Court of the United States an injunction upon the President and Directors of the Fayetteville and Western Railroad Company, againist the sale of their Wednesday last. Mr. Marshal Jones despatched a for defendant. Caffey vs. Davis, in Equity from Guillthe injunction. We presume that, of course, no sale was made.

THE PACIFIC RAILWAY. The Senate's Committee on "so much of the President's message and accompanying documents as relates to a national railroad from the Mississippi valley to the Pacific ocean, consists of Mr. Gwin, of California, Chairman-Mr. Bright of Indiana-Mr. Rusk, of Texas-Mr. Douglas, of Illinois-Mr. Bell, of Tennessee-Mr. Everett, of Massachusetts-Mr. Seward, of New York-Mr. leyer, of Missouri-and Mr. Evans, of South Carolina. A very strong Committee.

The Bank of the Valley of Virginia has declared a semi-annual dividend of 44 per centquarter per cent of which goes as bonus to the State. The Bank of Virginia, the Farmer's Bank of Virginia, have each declared a dividend of 41 per cent, try can now see that the promises made by the democracy at the election of Franklin Pierce are, at
the earliest moment practicable, to be put into force the usual deduction of 4 per cent, bonus to the State.

OPPOSITION TO THE ADMINISTRATION.

We make the following extract from a late number of the Baltimore Clipper-a neutral paper, favorably spoken of by the Raleigh Register and other Whig Journals. Indeed, if the Clipper has any leanings, they are towards Whiggery. Read it:

"OPPOSITION TO THE ADMINISTRATION. Such indications of disaffection as have appeared in the Demo-cratic ranks in Congress toward the Administration are regarded by certain Whig writers with great glee and rejoicing; but upon what grounds we are not able to determine. We have observed narrowly the conduct of the present Administration, and it is true that we have observed points upon which our disapprobation well might rest; but it is just to say that they have been few, and that the general tenor and important incidents have been such as to challenge our approval and even to imperatively demand our praise. So far as it has been developed, the foreign policy of the Government is just, dignified, pacific and conciliatory. The Message and Reports are the subjects of universal commendation. The topics of the revenue, internal improvements, and the Navy, are so treated as to accord alike with the well established doctrines of the Government and the popular will in relation to them. To nothing, in fact, can we turn our attention and find evidence of serious errors or shortcomings of the executive.

It may be true, that, in the distribution of the spoils of office, the President has not been politic; but what have the Whigs to do with this? The practice of proscription is a scurvy business at best, and no man who pursues it can preserve clean hands. But would the Whigs not pursue it if they had the pow-Did they not pursue it when they had the pow-

er? President Pierce has done nothing more; and if in doing this he has given offence to a portion of his own party, why should citizens outside of that party rejoice? Why do they wish to embarrass the Administration? Is it to gratify an unworthy and discreditable spirit of hatred and jealousy? If so, it is deeply disgraceful to them. We have hitherto believed the Whig party to be actuated by higher and nobler aims. In the ardor of political contests they have no doubt often erred; but at such times an apology could be found in the excited conflict of views and inter-

But at the present moment no such apology exists. Their opposition to the Administration, as evinced in the readiness with which they seek to affiance themselves with so small a faction of temporarily dissatisfied Democrats, wears the appearance of a "rule or ruin" spirit that has not always guided 'them. We have yet to see whither it will lead, -if to a continued factious opposition entailing serious evils to the country. But for us, although we do not array ourselves among the friends of the administration, nor covet the fame of its apologists, we are determined to judge it by its measures, and to commend them Mr. Bright introduced a bill granting two millions | heartily and fully whenever we believe them to be romotive of the welfare of the republic. in our judgment, the only line of policy that can mark the conduct of a true republican or a genuine

THE STEAMER SAN FRANCISCO.

The anxiety for the safety of this vessel continues unabated. It seems she was spoken the day before she was seen by the Maria Freeman, and that she was nearly in the same longitude on both occasions. This intelligence is deemed favorable, inasmuch as the San Francisco, if she had floated for one day during the gale, would probably continue affoat after the gale had abated, as it is thought it did after the Maria Freeman had seen her.

Boston, Jan. 7 .- The mate of the brig Napoleon, which spoke the San Francisco on the 25th of December, states that the spray, and not the sea, broke over the San Francisco; that part of the hurrieanehouse was standing forward, and that men were engaged in cutting it away and throwing it overboard. that smoke was seen issuing from the galley. The San Francisco was on the south side of the gulf stream, drifting out. The captain of the Napoleon thought that the steamer was in less danger than

The following interesting dispatch was received vesterday by the Secretary of the Navy, from Messrs. Aspinwall & Co., owners of the steamer San Fran-

NEW-YORK, Jan. 8 .- Mate of the brig Napoleon spoke the steamer San Francisco, Dec. 25th. He gives a consistent and intelligible report, and states that Captain Watkins had plenty of provisions. He had, however, lightened the ship. There were no

The brig Napoleon was at the nearest point within thirty yards of her, and saw twenty male passengers on deck. The cabin, hurricane-deck forward and wheels were standing. The damages to the steamer were merely in her upper-works, 'midships, The wheel-houses were gone, but the wheels were entire, and both guards in good order. The mate is sure that the rudder was all right. The foremast was gone above deck, but the mizenmast, (an important fact towards her safety,) was standing. Both smoke-stacks were entirely gone. The hull looks to be in good order. The sea was heavy, with a strong night-breeze from the north-west. As far as could be ascertained the steam-pumps were working.

The steamer was again seen on the 26th Decemper safe, with the drag out forward, and her head to the wind. The damages to her occurred in the gale of Dec. 24, which was intensely severe.

The San Francisco is insured in Wall street for \$300,000. It is stated the Government paid \$30,000 for the conveyance of the troops to their ports of destination. Among those on board, it is said, are a married daughter of Mr. Everett, and a married daughter of Judge Taney, the wife of Col. Taylor. We learn, also, that two ladies from Wilmington, in this State, were on board-wives of United States officers on their way to California.

SUPREME COURT.

TUESDAY, Jan. 10. The State rs. McQueen, from Bladen, was argued by the Attorney General for the State, and Kelly for the defendant. Booe es. Wilson, from Surry, was argued by Miller for defendant.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 11. Hamlin vs. Mebane, in Equity from Chatham, argued by Moore for the plaintiff, and Phillips and John H. Bryan for defendant, Carroll ts. Carroll, in Equity from Davidson, was stock in said road, advertised to take place on argued by Jno. H. Bryan for plaintiff, and Winston deputy to Fayetteville, Tuesday evening, to serve | ford, was argued by Miller for plaintiff and Morehead for defendant,

> Supreme Court Room, Jan. 6.
>
> At a meeting of the Trustees of the Public Library, the Chief Justice was appointed Chairman. Upon motion, it was resolved that the Board will. on the first day of February next, proceed to the appointment of a Librarian.

F. NASH, Chr'n. In addition to those we have heretofore named, we see in attendance from a distance on the Supreme Court, the following gentlemen: Mr. Attorney General Ransom; Col. S. J. Person, of New Hanover; James W. Bryan, Esq. of Craven; S. F. Phillips, Esq. of Orange; J. W. Norwood, Esq., of Orange; Wm. A. Wright, Esq. of New Hanover; J. H. Haughton, Esq. of Chatham; and Hon. Jas. T. Moreead, of Guilford,

Hon, John J. Crittenden was elected United States Segator from Kentucky, on the 11th, by a majority of 28.

THE DIPLOMATIC DUELS. We copy the following from the last Richmond

Enquirer: THE DIPLOMATIC DUEL. We observe a disposition in the Whig press to condemn the conduct of Mr. Soule in his recent difficulty with the French Minister, in advance of any authentic report of the circumstances which provoked the rencountre. We are not surprised at this exhibition of illiberality, but we very much mistake the temper of the pub-lic mind if the conduct of Mr. Soule be not approv-

ed by the country. The appointment of Mr. Soule was in the first instance exceedingly distasteful to the Court of Madrid, insomuch that there was some doubt as to his reception. Threats were made by the Spanish press that he would not be suffered to represent this country at the Court of Madrid; but, the apprehension, lest such an act of hostility might provoke the displeasure of our Government, caused the adoption of a more gentle method of rebuke and annovance. The plan suggested by a Madrid journal was to give Mr. Soule a formal reception, and then, by a system of petty annoyance and contemptuous demeanor, to render his position absolutely intolerable. In pursuance of this design, no doubt, the Duke of Alba availed himself of the occasion of an official reception by the French Minister, to make a disparaging remark in regard to the dress of Mrs. Soule. Fortunately the sneer did not escape the observation of young Soule, who promptly resented the insult in a very emphatic manner. In our judgment, the conduct of Mr. Soule, Jr., is worthy of especial commendation. He did right to chastise the titled minion for the insult to his mother; and it was proper that the punishment should be as public as the offence. The wife of an American Minister is equal in rank to the highest of Spanish dames, while in every this g that imparts dignity and respect to the character of woman, she is as much superior to them as her country is superior to the corrupt and decayed Monarchy to Spain. The outrage upon Mrs. Soule could have occurred at no other Court in Europe; at no other Court would the respect due to her sex and her position have been so basely violat-

ed. Where virtue is utterly wanting in woman, it is impossible to look for chivalry in man. At a Court, the presiding spirit of which indulges in all the scandalous excesses of illicit love, we will look in vain either for refinement of sentiment or courtesy in man: ers. While the Queen of Spain parades her paramour in public, we must endure the rudeness of such titled blackguards as the Duke of Alba. It was due, if not to the claim of personal honor. at least to the insulted dignity of his country, that young Soule should resent the rudeness of the Span-

ish Duke. The promptness and spirit which he displayed in his treatment of the case are worthy of all commendation. We can very readily imagine in what manner Mr. Soule the elder became involved in a difficulty with the French Minister. No doubt the Marquis de Turgot thought to propitiate the favor of his master by

resenting the wrongs of his mistress' brother. As the difficulty occurred at his house, a pretext was not wanting for complaint of the conduct of Mr. Soule, Jr., but Mr. Soule, Sr., would submit to no censure of his son, and thus, in all probability, he was provoked by the French Minister. The particulars of the duel are given thus in a let-

ter from Madrid :

"The duel between Mr. Soule and the Marquis de Turgot, took place with pistols at twenty paces, the parties meeting at Chamartin, a league from Madrid, at half-past eleven. The first fire took place without effect. On the second fire M. de Turgot was shout through the leg, near the knee; he was immediately removed home in his carriage, and bore the injury pretty well. The leg is now a good deal swollen, but as it appears that the knee-cap was not touched, and no principal artery wounded, it is trusted that his state is not one of danger. Mr. Soule

Mr. Perry, Secretary of the American Legation, was one of the seconds of young Soule, in his duel with the Duke of Alba. They fought with swords, but without either being wounded and it ended in the seconds drawing up a minute of the proceedings as having been conducted in a manner satisfactory to the honor and reputation of both parties. It waalso agreed that the letters which had passed be tween them sheuld be mutually withdrawn."

NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

Hot Corn .- Life scenes in New York, illustrated, Including the story of Little Katy .- The Ragpicker's daughter .- Wild Maggie, &c., by Solon Robinson.

We cannot always agree with "Horace Greely and his colaborers of the New York Tribune," yet we would bid God speed to every carnest, honest effort to relieve the wretched and degraded mass congregated in our large cities. We trust this attempt to spread their true condition before the world, and to open the eyes of good citizens to the fact that within a stone's throw of their splendid mansions, live human beings sunk in vice and misery, and whom they are bound to seek out and succor, will have due effect. These life scenes, may or may not have occurred as here narrated, but we know that dark as the picture may seem there are still blacker shades not given. The stories are deeply interesting, and whatever we may think of the book it cannot fail to excite and interest, if only for an hour. We hope that it may do more than this and arouse every human heart to feel for the woes of his brother man, wherever he may be found, in necessity and sin.

The Law and the Testimony, by the author of 'The Wide, Wide World," New York-Robert Carter & Brothers, 1853, pp. 840.

In answer to the self-proposed question, "what is this big book," the author says: It is a gathering of facts for the purpose of induction. It is a setting together of the mass of Scripture testimony on each of the grand points of Scripture teaching; in the hope that when the whole light of the scattered rays is flung on the matter, the truth may be made manifest." The fither of the author, in order to find Sunday-work for his youngest daughter, drew out a schedule of doctrines, and proposed that she and an older sister should examine the whole Scriptures, and arrange under the several heads the passages which serve to sustain or illustrate them, This large and handsome volume is the result. It is evident \$129,000. from the spirit in which the Preface is written, that the young ladies found their task a labor of love, and that they prosecuted it in happy ignorance that it was a work from which a Buxtorf or an Edwards might have shrunk. That it is not a work of critical analysis and discrimination will be taken for granted; but the collection is so copious that the Biblical student will find it a very convenient book of reference. In the preparations of sermons especially, the minister may save much time and labor by having such a work constantly at hand. It will be a far better help than metaphysical or theological discussions of the doctrine he may wish to exhibit. They can be had at Pomeroy's,

THE VETERANS OF 1812. A Convention of the soldiers of the war of 1812, assembled in Philadelphia on Tuesday last. They mustered in great numbers at Independence Hall and the United States' troom. Flags were displayed en all the public lings in honor of the assemblage:

Correspondence of the North Carolina Standard.

Extract from a letter to the Editor, dated FORSYTHE, December, 1853.

"I send you \$2 for the Standard the ensuing year. I have been a constant reader of the Standard for fifteen years past-ever since I was a boy. Few of my age can say as much. It should be in the hands every true Republican. The principles it advocates are truly American. No time-serving policy finds favor in your columns. Your course in relation to that arch-disorganizer, Venable, met the approbation of all good Democrats in this section. As sentinel on the watchtower you have faithfully performed your duty. Go on-the Democracy in solid phalanx will stand by you."

Extract from a letter to the Editor, dated **RICHMOND** Co., Dec., 1853.

"It is needless for me to say any thing in favor of your journal at this time; the opinion I have heretofore expressed is unchanged. You have acted your part well in the past-may it be the same in the future. Though I am absent in person, I am with you in feeling and faith." Extract from a letter to the Editor, dated

ROCHINGHAM Co., Dec., 1853.

" Enclosed you will find \$6 for the Standard. Every man who feels an interest in the welfare of the government ought to read your paper, as it is the true expounder of the Democratic faith, and calculated to enlighten the minds of the people and advance the prosperity of our beloved country." Extract from a letter to the Editor, dated

SMITHFIELD, Dec. 1853. "Your list of subscribers has increased considerably at this office within a short time. Old Johnston will ever be found, I trust, sustaining principles be-

Extract from a letter to the Editor, dated

EAST FLORIDA, Dec., 1853. "Your course has met with my entire approbation, as I hope it has with all true Carolina Democrats, of whom I claim to be a descendant. With my congratulations for the past and well wishes for the future, I am yours, &c.

Extract from a letter to the Editor, dated

WARREN Co., Jan. 5, 1854. "Enclosed you will find \$1 in advance for your most valuable Semi-Weekly paper for the ensuing year. I was one of the Warren Democrats that voted for Mr. Venable,; though I condemned his course, still I considered him the strongest man. I cannot believe Mr. Venable could carry this County single-handed for distribution. We looked upon him at one time as being a faithful representative.

but, Sir, our confidence is lost for the fnture." Extract from a letter to the Editor, dated

NASH Co., Jan. 7, 1854 "I see the Whigs are moving, and it is high time the Democracy were holding meetings to appoint delegates to the State Convention. I hope there is not a County which will not be represented in the Convention. As for Nash, she is the banner County, and will go for a rigid construction of the Constitution and for the Baltimore platform. By a united rally for our principles there is no doubt of our

A farmer friend, says the Salisbury Banner, has handed us a letter in reply to one he addressed to Prof. Phillips, of Chapel Hill, making some enquiries about the analysis of soils. As the substance of the letter will probably be of interest to farmers generally, we make the following extracts from it.

CHAPEL HILL, N. C. Dec. 28, 1853. My Dear Sir: In reply to your enquiries I regret I have so little satisfactory to state. Prof. Hedrick will certainly attend most exclusively for a while to the analysis of soils and minerals. But the public must wait till he gets here and is properly fixed to attend to their wants. There is no proper analytical Laboratory here at present, and never has been. All of its apparatus must be brought on and set up, and its machinery worked till it gets smooth. Perhaps you have seen those analyses, by Prof. Hedrick, which were published a week or two since in the Register and in the Standard; they promise well for the accuracy and intelligence which will characterize his work, and for his usefulness to North Carolina. You will be advised when Prof. H. is ready to serve his fellow-citizens, and of the terms on which these analyses will be afforded. The Trustees have not yet fully organized the departments in our new school of Science, as applied to the arts; but we must all hope that every interest in the old North State will receive fresh vigor from its workinge. By the way, Prof. Hedrick's father is a resident in Rowan. The old man has a gifted son.

Yours Respectfully CHARLES PHILLIPS.

For the Standard.

THE NEXT GOVERNOR. MR. HOLDEN: I observe that a number of promi nent Democrats have been spoken of for Governor. This is gratifying, as it shows that we have our full share of able, competent and reliable men. We cannot hope, Sir, to obtain such a candidate as David

Allow me, with all respect for others, to present the name of SAMUEL J. PERSON, of New-Hanover. He is confessedly one of the most promising men of his age in the State-he has seen service in the State Legislature, where he took and maintained a high stand-he is popular personally from Moore county down through all the Cape Fear country; and he is an unflinching advocate of Free Suffrage, and indeed eminently sound on all State and National issues. I should be much pleased to see him nominated; but if not, I will support the nominee, whoever he may be, as all good Democrats should do

S. Reid was; but it is our duty to come as near it as

A DEMOCRAT.

Destructive fire at Portland. PORTLAND, Jan. 8. The custom house at this place

was entirely destroyed by fire this morning. It was occupied, besides, by the post office, reading room, Atlantic Bank, United States court, Natural History Society, Bailey's book store, and other tenants. Evething in the post office was saved, but the contents of the custom-house, the splendid collection of the Natural History Society, Judge Ware's valuable library, the reading room, and court-room were entirely destroyed. The loss is heavy and falls chiefly on the government. The building was formerly the exchange, and was sold to the government for

Fire. READING, (Pa.,) January 9. The Railroad depot and machine shop, at this place, were destroyed by fire this morning—loss \$500,000.

[SECOND DESPATCH.]

The fire at the depot this morning consumed the machine shops, boiler shops, and other buildings besides, nine locomotives were much injured. The place will be repaired in time for spring business, and the road not interrupted,

The New York Fire, PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 9. The total less by the New York fire is half a million dollars—insurance \$250.

Boston, Jaz. 10. The schooner Rockingham took fire and was burnt at the wharf to day. The vessel was sunk; her cargo of rosin was destroyed.

The revenue outter Morris, sailed to-day in search of the steamer San Francisco.

The Legislature has elected Washburn, Whig Governor.

[Special Correspondence of the Richmond Enquirer, Credit for Duties on Rail Road Iron Proposed by Mr. Clingman—Its Beneficial Operation—Unjust Tax on the Community to Benefit the Ironmong-ers—The Bronson Resolution laid on the Table.

Washington, Jan 4, 2854. The subject of the importation of rail road iron either free of duty or of giving a credit for the duties upon it, is one of more importance than is generally supposed. It is attracting and deserves attention. Whilst most of the railroads at the North are completed, those of the South are just now in progress. The South begins to realize that all such improvements are necessary to its prosperity and real power. Previous to 1842, rail road iron was imported free of duty, and it was during this period that most of the Northern roads were made. They had all the advantage of the cheapness of iron. Now, the onerous duty operates as a severe tax upon Southern improvements for the benefit of a few iron-

Mr. Clingman of North Carolina is the author of this measure of relief, and it is one of several substantial points of Southern policy. This bill propcses to give a credit of four years for the duties, with security for their payment. This bill failed to pass the last Congress but by a single vote. Mr. Clingman, several days ago, introduced it again, and it was favorably received by the House, who refused to lay it on the table, and it was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. It was, in substance, brought up again yesterday by Mr. Churchwell of Tennessee, and will eventually pass.

As an instance of the operation of things as they are, the Raleigh and Gaston Company purchased, in England, iron for their road, and were obliged to pay between \$70,000 or 80,000 as a duty or tax before they were allowed to bring it in. Being pressed in their means, they asked that they should be permitted to give bonds, with good security, to pay this duty in one, two, three or four years. They also proposed that the Government should retain the money, which it is to pay them for carrying the mails, which would be more than sufficient to pay the debt. This is but one instance of many at the South. As other parts of the country have had, previous to 1842, the benefit of no duty, it is but fair, that the others should have at least the benefit of a credit. The proposition is entirely just in itself, and in its operation would be productive of gene-

ral good. Mr. Perkins of Louisiana, yesterday proposed to admit rail road iron free of duty. To this, we must come at last, for free trade doctrines strengthen every day with the growing intelligence of the country. But the public is not yet prepared for them entirely. The proposition of Mr. Clingman is a practical approximation to them, and secures a recognition of the principle, independently of its other benefits.

The whole system, a part of which is the heavy duty on iron, is an unjust one. It is weakening, and must eventually entirely disappear ad truth and experience. To protect our manufacturers in their infancy, may have been proper. From the war of 1812, for a period of nearly forty years, the manufactures have enjoyed abundant protection, at the expense of the community. They even now enjoy the advantage of thirty per cent. duties. If they cannot, after the strengthening of forty years of nurture and growth, still exist without support, it is not our fault. But the manufacturing interest is abundantly flourishing, and if it suffers from any thing, it is from excessive protection.

The practical working of the iron-protection is ex-actly this: There are but three establishments in the United States where rail-road iron is made, and the duty upon it is for their protection; and this impost is a virtual tax upon the South and West, and all other interests of the country, for their benefit. This is hardly just; and yet by the force of lobbying and of money, it is kept ap. A proper examination of these matters should and will put an end to such in-

The resolution offered yesterday in the House by Mr. Cutting of New York, about Mr. Bronson's remsval, was to-day laid on the table. Congress should care very little who hold the offices, provided they be men of fair character and of capability. FAIRFAX.

Further from California.

New ORLEANS, Jan. 6. The steamer El Dorado reached her wharf about 4 o'clock. Her dates are to the 16th ult. from San Francisco.

The steamship Daniel Webster, from San Juan, Nicaragua, with similar dates from California, has also arrived. She brings 100 passengers, and reports that the steamship Star of the West sailed from San Juan on the 1st instant for New York, with \$60 passengers and \$2,000,000 in gold.

The principal feature in the California papers is the account of the proceedings of the Sonora fillibusters. On the 2d of December Mr. Walker and his party made an excursion from San Diego, where they arrived on the day previous to capture the governor or to forage. They were attacked by the Mexicans and beaten, with the loss of twelve or fourteen men. They then fled and took refuge in a house at Ensensba, where, at latest accounts, they were seiged by several hundred Mexicans, who cut off their boats, and prevented their reaching the Caro-

line, which was anchored near by. The barque Oneta sailed from San Francisco on the 13th, with two hundred and fifty fillibusteros and a large supply of ammunition for the assistance of the Walker expedition. The authorities made no attempt to stop her. It is reported that others are shortly to follow.

The machinery and part of the mails of the Winfield Scott were entirely lost, but the ship had not, at latest dates, broken up. The Pacific railroad surveying expedition was bu-

sy in the South. The mining accounts are very favorable. Large quantities of rain had fallen, and the rivers were high. The British ship Jenny Lind was lost going out of the harbor of San Francisco, on the 11th of December. Some difficulty had occurred in the fire department of San Francisco, and about 300 members had resigned.

THE MARKETS. The San Francisco Herald says: "Nearly every department of trade is dull, in con-sequence of continued heavy importations, and a limited demand from the interior. Flour was dull, with small sales of Gallego and Haxall, at \$14 a \$15. Pork had declined to \$19 a \$20 for mess.

New York, Jan. 9. The steamers George Law and Star of the West arrived here this morning, from Aspinwall. The George Law brings 250 passengers and \$410,000 in gold dust; the Star of the West, \$1,300,000 in gold, and 450 passengers.

The California news by these steamers is no later than that already received via New Orleans by El Dorado and Daniel Webster.

A battle took place between the foreign party and Walker's gang, in lower California. Twelve Americans were killed. Col. Walker was still President of the republic of Lower California

Tun Spring Edections. The Whigs of North Carolius, are hulding meetings in different sections of the State, preparing for the Spring Elections. As their's is a hopeless cause, it will require great efforts on their part to make any show of opposition

to the Democracy.

The Democracy, as heretofore, will move on smothly and slowly, sweeping every thing before them. They are in no great hurry to commence the cauvass; but when once commenced, the work will be executed, and Whiggery will receive a shock, the effects of which, it will never be able to recover from in North Carolina. It is already down; but in the Spring it will receive its final quietus.

Halifae Republican.

Dust, herween Secretary Davis and Sexagor Toomes, The telegraphic Washington correspondent of the New York Herald, the same who recently started the Mexican treaty story, says that a challenge has been sont by Col. Jefferson Davis, Secretary of War, to Mr. Toomba, United States Senator from Georgia, and been necepted.